

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 23 as follows:

Exemplary embodiments of the invention are described with reference to the accompanying drawings, which show in

Fig.1 cropping of a subtitle area in a video frame;

Fig.2 a pixel sequence in a subtitle area;

Fig.3 a coding table for subtitling, including text and graphics;

Fig.4 a table with an exemplary syntax of an extended object data segment for the Blu-ray Prerecorded standard;

Fig.5 a flow chart of the encoding method; and

Fig.6 a flow chart of the decoding method.

On page 12, after line 2, please insert the following paragraphs:

The invention discloses a method for run-length encoding of a data stream comprising bitmap formatted subtitle or menu data for video presentation on a display, wherein the subtitle or menu data include graphics or text or both, as shown in Figure 5. The method comprises the steps of defining a preferred color 510, and defining a range of run-lengths 520. Pixels of the preferred color are encoded to first code words with two or three bytes, wherein the first code words comprise a run-length value 530 and 540-547. The run-length value comprised in first code words having three bytes exceeds the defined range and may exceed the width of the display 547. Pixels of another than the preferred color are encoded to second code words with one, three or four bytes 550-567, wherein the second code words comprise a color value and second code words having three or four bytes

comprise a run-length value. The run-length value comprised in second code words having four bytes exceeds the defined range and may exceed the width of the display 565.

A method for run-length decoding of an encoded data stream for a video presentation on a display is shown in Figure 6. The method comprises determining the first byte of a code word 610. If the first byte does not have a defined first value, the first byte is decoded to a single pixel having its color defined by the value of the first byte, the color being other than a defined first color 625. If the first byte has the defined first value, the method determines the first and second bits of the following byte (the second byte). If the first and second bits of the second byte have a first value 630, the remaining bits of the second byte are decoded to a sequence of pixels of the defined first color, wherein the remaining bits of the second byte define the sequence length 635. If the first and second bits of the second byte have a second value 640, the remaining bits of the second byte together with the following third byte are decoded to a sequence of pixels of the defined first color, wherein the remaining bits of the second byte and the third byte define the sequence length, and the sequence length may exceed the display width 645. If the first and second bit of the second byte have a third value 650, the remaining bits of the second byte together with the third byte are decoded to a sequence of pixels of a another color. The remaining bits of the second byte define the sequence length and the third byte defines the pixels color 655. If the first and second bit of the second byte have a fourth value, the remaining bits of the second byte together with the third and a following fourth byte are decoded 657, wherein the remaining bits of the second byte and the third byte define the sequence length and the fourth byte defines the pixel color, and the sequence length may exceed the display width value 658.